THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) The Million Wells Scheme (MWS) is being implemented to provide dug wells for irrigation purposes, free for cost, to individual poor small and marginal farmers belonging to SCs/STs and freed bonded labourers. Where wells are not feasible due to geological factors, other minor irrigation works including development of lands belonging to small and marginal farmers is undertaken. Borewells and tubewells, on both individual and group basis have been permitted under the scheme w.e.f. 1.10.96. The scheme is funded by the Centre and State in the ratio of 80:20.

(c) The number of wells constructed in Gujarat under MWS is 41497 (upto Sept. 96) since inception of the scheme i.e. 1988-89. District-wise details are not monitored at the Central level.

(d) Physical targets for Construction of wells are not fixed as there are other activities permitted under the Scheme.

Theft of electricity

117. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that theft of electricity is cognizable offence under the Electricity Act, 1910 and it extends to the whole of India;

(b) if so, how many cases of electricity theft were booked under the Act in the country, particularly in Maharashtra and Delhi during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to ensure that provisions of the law are implemented effectively to curb electricity thefts in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The responsibility for booking cases for theft of elelctricity vests with the concerned State Governments. Information regarding number of cases booked during the last three years in Maharashtra and Delhi is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Power distribution falls within the purview of State governments and the activities pertaining to reduction of transmission and distribution losses and prosecution of cases for theft of electricity are to be taken by power utilities operating under the jurisdiction of Government of Maharashtra/Delhi. To effectively implement the provisions of the law to curb electricity theft guidelines have been issued by Central Electricity Authority to State Electricity Boards/Electricity Departments which, inter-alia, include installation of tamper proof meters, setting up of vigilance squads and prosecuting persons indulging in theft of electricity.

Amount due for payment to the World Bank by NTPC

118. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI:
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total loan outstanding on NTPC from World Bank as on date;

(b) the stpes taken by NTPC during the last three years to repay the same;

(c) whether the World Bank has informed NTPC to stop any further loan; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) The total outstanding loan taken directly by National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) from World Bank as on 30.9.1996 in US $ 56.7 million (189.12 crores).

(b) No repayment was due by NTPC during the last three years.

(c)The World Bank have indicated to resort to suspension of loans and deferment of new loans to NTPC in case urgent remedial action

is not taken to improve the position of receivables of NTPC from State Electricity Boards (SEBs), as NTPC is not in compliance with the convenant of limiting the receivables within two months' of billing.

(d) The Government have taken a number of measures to improve the situation which include recovery of all outstanding dues from SEBs by appropriation from the plan assistance to the respective states. Future supply of power shall only be against the advance payments or irrevocable Letters of Credit by SEBs.

Review paper on the Eighth Five Year Plan

119. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has prepared a review paper on the performance of the Eighth Five Year Plan in lieu of the Mid term Appraisal of the Plan;

(b) if so, the highlights of the review paper;

(c) the areas of the concern identified; and

(d) how Government propose to address them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (d) A review of the Eighth Five Year Plan 1992-97 will be included in the Approach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan 1997-2002, the preparation of which is presently underway in the Planning Commission.

Survey of Urban Areas Lacking Sanitation and Drainage

120. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to identify urban areas all over the country which suffer from lack of sanitation and drainage;

(b) whether any such survey has been done on a detailed basis by Government; and

(c) if so, the number of badly affected areas in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT & MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) carried out a survey on status of water supply and waste water collection treatment and disposal for Class-I cities (population above 1,00,000) and Class-II towns (population between 50,000 and 99,999) (as per 1981 Census) in the country during 1988. The CPCB is presently engaged in updating this information in collaboration with the Environment Protection Training Research Institute (EPTRI), Hyderabad.

(c) In the survey carried out in 1988 in the State of Andhra Pradesh, 43 Class-I cities and Class-II towns were assessed for sanitation status. The study indicated that the sewage at some places is treated at primary level only. Besides proper sewerage is required to be provided in some of the cities and towns. The comprehensive statement on status of sanitation in respect of Andhra Pradesh is given in the annexure. *[See* Appendix-179, Annexure No. 3]

Petrol Pumps allotted to relatives of VIPs in Karnataka

121. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol pumps allotted to the relatives of VIPs in Karnataka in December, 1994;

(b) how many of them were put into operation in subsequent years; and

(c) the reasons of late operations, if any;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRl T.R. BAALU); (a) to (c) Retail outlet dealerships are allotted through prescribed procedure which includes advertisement of the location and selection of the allottee by the Oil Selection Board. A few dealerships/distributionships are also awarded on compassionate grounds. Relation with any VIP is not a criterion for allottment of dealership/distributorship to a candidate, nor any such record is maintained.